

The Albert J. Zabriskie House  
Glen Avenue  
Paramus, Bergen County, New Jersey

HABS-NJ-271

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer  
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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The Albert J. Zabriskie House  
Glen Avenue  
Paramus, Bergen County, New Jersey

Owner: Mr. and Mrs. Brooker

Date of Erection: Stone part 1805; frame  
wing 1855

Architect:

Builder: Albert J. Zabriskie

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: Two

Materials of Construction: Foundation - red sand-  
stone 20" thick

Exterior walls - stone,  
front of main section  
dressed, siding gables,  
wing frame

Interior walls - partition  
3 x 4 oak studs 2' 6" apart  
filled with oak splits  
plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - gambrel with dormers  
main section; pitch with  
dormers on wing, wood shingles

Historical Data:

The Zabriskie family is one of the most  
numerous and conspicuous families in Bergen County.  
The first of the Zabriskies was Albrecht Sobieska  
who came from Poland. Albrecht arrived on the

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Dutch Ship Fox in 1662. He married and settled on the west bank of the Hackensack River and purchased from the Indians the title of the land called the New Paramus Patent; this contained about 1,977 acres. He had five sons and they became the founders of the large family of the Zabriskies.

This structure was erected in 1805 by Albert J. Zabriskie. It originally had two doors and two windows in the front making a symmetrical elevation; the one door was changed to a window. The present frame addition was built in 1850 and replaced an original stone kitchen which was considerably smaller than the present wing. In the loft of this frame addition the slaves were locked for the night. The door at the foot of the stairs still has the clever designed lock as shown in the drawings.

Across the street from the present house formerly stood a stone residence built by Peter A. Zabriskie. This house was demolished and the Albert Zabriskie house was built from the material. Among the items used was the wrought iron fireplace, which was originally imported from England, shown on the drawings. The main rear door of the house, which still carries a British bullet imbedded in it, is also from this house.

Mrs. J. P. Zabriskie, a granddaughter of the builder, relates that she remembers hearing that the carpenters were paid twenty-five cents per day, the head mason thirty-one cents per day, and the helpers six cents per day when the Albert Zabriskie house was built.

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Reviewed  
Sept 2, 1936  
TWT